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UNIV. OF MICHIGAN

MINNESOTA
PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION
LIBRARY NOTES AND NEWS

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THE LIBRARY AS A SOCIAL CENTER.

BY AMY A. LEWIS,
Librarian, Fergus Falls.

Henry Ward Beecher says: "Education is the knowledge of how to use the whole of one's self. Men are often like knives with many blades; they know how to open one, and only one; all the rest are buried in the handle, and they are no better than they would have been if the knife had been made with but one blade. Many men use but one or two faculties out of the score with which they are endowed. A man is educated who knows how to make a tool of every faculty; how to open it, how to keep it sharp, learning to apply it to all practical purposes."

Now a library is an essential part of a broad system of education, and a community should think it as discreditable to be without a well-conducted free public library as to be without a good school.

Dr. Van Dyke likens the library to the pantry where the food is stored. No house is complete without its book-room, and no town should be considered complete without its public library.

The library should be the intellectual center of the town undoubtedly, and should

also serve an auxiliary purpose as a social center. To fulfil both aims effectually should be the aim and ideal of library work.

To be well patronized and made available to the community at large, a central location is absolutely necessary. We can't catch our readers, and make them read, but we can make use of all our available assets.

The library should be made attractive in every way, because it in reality holds in trust the genuine and lasting pleasures of life which are chiefly those of the mind, and are gained largely through books. Richard Le Gallienne says: "What are my books? My friends, my loves, my church, my tavern, and my only wealth—my garden, yea, my flowers, my bees, my doves; my only doctors, and my only health."

A genuine lover of books requires no magnet to attract him to the storehouse—he gravitates thither naturally, and finds his natural home and surroundings in company with his well-beloved friends.

Who has a right to the free public library?

1. Anyone who wishes to come in, and read.
2. Any citizen, young or old.
3. Any student.
4. Any stranger who can secure a proper endorsement.

Frequented by people of all ranks and conditions, the library should, outside the homes, be made as attractive as possible to the community. The reading-rooms should be clean, bright, warm and cheerful, radiating an atmosphere of welcome to one and all.

One of our regular patrons said one day, "Oh, it is always so beautiful here—I do enjoy coming to the library so much." Another remarked, "Our library is a building

to be proud of—we think so much of it in every way.”

Let the librarian realize more and more both her intellectual and social opportunities of service. As the successful hostess forgets herself, and exhausts every resource to entertain her guests, so let the librarian use all her faculties for the benefit of her patrons, make her wares attractive and accessible, give a hearty welcome, a pleasant smile, and prompt assistance to all who require her services. **Be always ready, and keep smiling.**

The library building may and should serve many social purposes. The auditorium and club room are available for musical recitals, rehearsals, exhibits, league meetings, women's clubs and lectures. In some places work for children in clubs is prominent, with headquarters at the library. Many libraries have given receptions to the teachers with the view of promoting by social intercourse the co-operation of library and school.

In the Leith Walk Library in Edinburgh, Scotland, there is a play-room and gymnasium. Fourteen clubs and organizations of all sorts hold their regular meetings in the library at Nashville, Tenn.

The public library of St. Louis, Mo., is progressive, popular and successful and is becoming more and more definitely a social center. In the branch libraries they have Christmas festivals and May-pole parties. Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick, the librarian, in addressing a social service conference said that the work of the library was divided into two parts, educational and recreational, and both were social service. “Whatever the public needs,” he says, “it is the duty of the public library to supply. The public library is a public utility.”

In the public library all meet on equal terms—the laborer, mechanic, merchant, student, teacher, clubwoman, everyone, can claim and have an equal privilege. For being human is everybody's starting-point—being human, needing to meet as citizens, as neighbors, as human beings, without regard to party, creed, class or wealth. The spirit of the social center is the spirit of the neighborhood, and in seeking to carry it out in our own community, in our own library, are we not trying in our modern twentieth century way, to answer the lawyer's question, asked 2,000 years ago, “Who is my neighbor?” For the adventure of

being human is not new. It is the ancient and simple way to accomplishment.

Of course the more popular the librarian, the more the library will flourish. The librarian who can boast an extensive acquaintance among all classes of the community, who as “a friend, can show herself friendly,” will prove of great value in popularizing the social side of the library. Many who have never entered its precincts will venture in to see the friend they knew in former days, and once through the magic portal, the day is gained if the librarian has enough tact and sympathy to establish the point of contact between her old acquaintance and the (to them) new world of books.

A wide knowledge of human nature, a wider charity, are essential to the building up of the social side of library work. A worker endowed with infinite patience, keen interest, retentive memory, a saving sense of humor, and thoroughly imbued with the library spirit will confer more benefits on the community than are dreamed of.

One of our leading library magazines takes as its motto: “The public library is an integral part of public education.”

Let us in our new Civic awakening take as ours: “The public library is a center of social endeavor.”

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

Ottawa Conference.

The A. L. A. Bulletin for May contains full announcement regarding the annual conference, which will take place at Ottawa June 26 to July 2. The program promises to be one of unusual excellence and live interest, and the travel arrangements, with the post-conference cruise on the St. Lawrence and Saguenay rivers will afford a most delightful outing at moderate cost. The general theme of the conference, as given in Mrs. Elmendorf's address will be “The concern of the community in the awakening and development of taste or aptitude in individuals.” This will be developed in several ways throughout the sessions and the committee has taken particular care to allow time for discussion.

The tentative programs of the various sections and affiliated bodies are also published in the A. L. A. Bulletin and show a wide variety of interests, related to special branches of library work.

Outline of Program.

Wednesday, June 26.

Afternoon—Executive Board.

Evening—Preliminary Session.

Addresses of welcome. (Speakers not yet announced.)

Response to welcome, Mrs. H. L. Elmen-dorf, President of the A. L. A.

Address, Dr. Herbert Putnam, Librarian of Congress.

Thursday, June 27

Morning—First General Session.

President's Address—The public library: "A leaven'd and prepared choice."

Address. (Speaker not yet certain.)

Reports of officers and committees.

Afternoon—Council; American Association of Law Libraries.

Evening—National Association of State Libraries; Agricultural Libraries Section; Catalog Section.

Friday, June 28.

Morning—Second General Session.

Publicity for the sake of information—Tessa L. Kelso and W. H. Hatton.

Publicity for the sake of support—Carl H. Milam.

The breadth and limitations of book-buying—Walter L. Brown.

The open door, through the book and the library; opportunity for comparison and choice; unhampered freedom of choice—Jessie Welles and Charles E. McLenegan.

Reports of committees.

Afternoon—Joint Session.

American Assn. of Law Libraries.

National Assn. of State Libraries.

Special Libraries Association.

Bibliographical Society of America.

Children's Librarians' Section.

College and Reference Section.

State Library Associations—Round Table.

Evening—League of Library Com-missions; College and Reference Section; Trus-tees' Section.

Saturday, June 29.

Morning—Third General Session.

(Joint session with professional training section.)

Type of assistants: Their knowledge and love of books—Mary E. Hazeltine.

Type of assistants: The value of the book to the public dependent upon the in-telligent discrimination of the assistant—Edith Tobitt.

The efficiency of the library staff and scientific management—Adam Strohm.

What library schools can do for the pro-fession—Chalmers Hadley. Discussion.

Afternoon—Drive to Experiment Farm and lunch—guests of the Dominion Govern-ment.

Evening—League of Library Commis-sions; Catalog Section; Government Docu-ments—Round Table; Bibliographical So-ciety.

Sunday, June 30.

Evening—Library Schools Dinners.

Monday, July 1.

Morning—Fourth General Session.

"Canada Day." (Tentative program.)

Dominion Day and its associations—Hon. George. E. Foster, Canadian Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Conservation in Canada—James W. Rob-ertson, C. M. G., of the Commission of Con-servation. Subject to be treated not so much from the material point of view as from that of character-building.

Address. (Subject not announced)—Prof. Andrew Macphail, McGill University.

The Library Habit—Dr. George D. Locke. Afternoon—Council; Special Libraries Assn.; Children's Librarians' Section.

Evening—Fifth General Session.

Address—Dr. George E. Vincent, President University of Minnesota.

Tuesday, July 2.

Morning—Joint Session.

American Assn. of Law Libraries.

National Assn. of State Libraries.

Special Libraries Association.

Professional Training Section.

Publishing Board.

Afternoon—Sixth General Session.

Book advertising: Information as to sub-ject and scope of books—Carl B. Roden.

Book advertising: Illumination as to at-traction of real books—Grace Miller.

Business.

Ottawa Hotels.

Headquarters will be at the new Chateau Laurier. As a special favor the manager has consented to conduct the hotel on American plan for the conference. Rates will be as follows:

1 in a room without bath....\$5.00 per day
2 in a room without bath, ea. 3.50 per day
1 in a room with bath..... 6.00 per day
2 in a room with bath, each.. 4.50 per day

Applications for room should be made direct to F. W. Bergman, manager, Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Canada. Reservations will be considered in order of receipt and accommodations requested will be assigned until there shall be no more at price and kind desired. Those who apply for reservation at the Chateau Laurier after supply is exhausted will be assigned rooms of as nearly same quality as possible at the New Russell Hotel, nearly across the street.

In making reservation state definitely accommodations desired, price per day, time of arrival, and wishes or arrangement as to room-mate. Baggage should be plainly marked with name of owner, followed by "American Library Association (name of hotel), Ottawa, Canada."

New Russell Hotel, until the present the best in Ottawa, is about a minute's walk from the Chateau Laurier. Rooms (without meals) from \$1.00 up to \$3.50. Meals on European plan. Apply to manager for reservation.

Grand Union Hotel, about five minutes' walk from Chateau Laurier, offers rate of \$2.50 a day, American plan. Apply to manager for reservation.

There are numerous restaurants and tea houses in close proximity for those not caring to take meals at hotel.

Travel Arrangements.

Two routes are possible for those attending from Minnesota:

(1) Via Chicago joining the special train from there.

(2) Via the "Soo" railway direct from Minneapolis or St. Paul.

A special electric-lighted train will leave Chicago via the Grand Trunk railway (Dearborn Station, Polk and Dearborn Sts.) on Monday, June 24, at 9:00 p. m., stopping in Toronto from 11:00 a. m. until 10:00 p. m. Tuesday, and arriving in Ottawa on the morning of June 26.

The trustees of the Toronto Public Library and Toronto University have extended a cordial invitation through Mr. George H. Locke, librarian of the Toronto Public Library, to make the stop-over at Toronto, and this offers a special inducement to travel with the A. L. A. party. The delegates will be entertained with a garden party at the University, a tour around the city, and visit to the public library and its branches.

Breakfast Tuesday morning will be served

in dining car before reaching Toronto. Service a la carte.

Railroad rates. A thirty days' excursion rate of \$20 from Chicago will be in effect, \$36 from St. Paul or Minneapolis, and will be much cheaper than any certificate plan rate granted. Pullman rates from Chicago are as follows:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Lower berth | \$ 4.50 |
| Upper berth | 3.65 |
| Section | 8.15 |
| Compartment (accommodating two persons) | 13.50 |
| Drawing room (accommodating three persons) | 17.00 |

Pullman reservation applications must be accompanied by deposit covering the accommodation desired, not later than June 10. Address John F. Phelan, Chicago Public Library.

Arrangements may be made to return by boat if desired.

Those who expect to take the post-conference trip should purchase round-trip summer tourist tickets to Montreal, which allow ten-days' stop-over for the conference.

For further information as to routes, see A. L. A. Bulletin for May or address John F. Phelan, Western member A. L. A. Travel Committee, Chicago Public Library.

The shortest and cheapest route from Minnesota is by the Soo railway leaving Minneapolis at 6:35 p. m., St. Paul at 7:20 p. m. and arriving in Ottawa at 4:20 a. m. the second day. The summer excursion rate to Ottawa is \$34.90, and the sleeper is \$5.50. Railroads in Canada have granted a one-way rate to the conference, and if one is able to take advantage of the 10-day limit excursion rate to Sault Ste. Marie, good only on Tuesday and Friday of each week, a slight saving may be effected by buying an excursion ticket from St. Paul or Minneapolis to Sault Ste. Marie, at \$16.50 and from there purchasing a ticket to Ottawa on the certificate plan for \$14.75, a total of \$31.25.

Post-Conference Trip.

The Post-Conference trip will consist of a six days' excursion on the St. Lawrence and Saguenay rivers, beginning at Montreal on Wednesday evening, July 3d and ending at the same place Tuesday morning, July 9th. In addition, the best part of Wednesday, July 3d, will be spent in Montreal. The entire cost of the trip will not exceed \$38.50, including stay in Montreal, meals, berths

and all side excursions. On Wednesday evening, July 3d, the party takes special steamer and proceeds down the river, passing Quebec the next morning, calling in the afternoon at the little French village of Les Eboulements, and later at Tadousac at the mouth of the Saguenay. Between Tadousac and Capes Eternity and Trinity occurs the very finest scenery on the Saguenay; and this part of the route will be traversed while the sun is setting and the late moon rising, so that the Capes themselves may be seen by moonlight. Early next morning the steamer will be at Ha Ha Bay, near Chicoutimi, and chosen instead of the latter as a turning-point of the excursion. Having ascended the Saguenay by night the descent will be made by day with a long stop at the Capes, and at Tadousac. Thence the steamer will cross the St. Lawrence, here 18 to 20 miles wide, in order to give the party an additional taste of salt water and also to get the effect of the sunset on the northern cliffs. The next day will be spent at Murray Bay. Here headquarters will be at the Manoir Richelieu, and there will be a beautiful drive to one of the falls in the vicinity, while for those who prefer it there will be golf. Sunday the seventh, and Monday the eighth of July will be spent in Quebec. On Sunday there will, of course, be an opportunity of attending services at the Basilica and on Monday various points of interest, including "La Bonne Sainte Anne," and the Falls of Montmorency, will be visited. While at Quebec luncheon will be taken at the Chateau Frontenac. Les Eboulements has been selected as a type of a French village, and Tadousac, at the mouth of the Saguenay, is beautiful, and at the same time full of historical associations.

The steamer, "Saguenay" has been chartered for the trip. She is a fine new steel vessel with roomy staterooms, and is comfortable in every respect. Her capacity is two hundred and thirty, two in a room.

Applications for staterooms and berths should be made now direct to Thomas Henry, Traffic Manager, Richelieu & Ontario Navigation Company, Montreal, with a deposit of \$5.00 to secure reservation. Choice of room-mate, if any, should be stated when applying, because it will not be practicable to allot a whole room to one person. Applications will be booked in order of receipt.

SUMMER LIBRARY SCHOOL, 1912.

The announcement of the Summer Library School for 1912 has been issued, and the program is practically completed. The school opens June 17th, in Room 206 of the Library Building at the State University, and all students must present themselves for registration at 8:30 Monday morning, prepared to begin work immediately.

The instruction in the technical side of library work, including accessioning, shelf-list, classification, cataloging and allied subjects will be given by Miss Carey, the organizer of the Commission, and continued throughout the course.

The course in book-selection will be given by Miss Baldwin, with talks on the principles of book selection, aids in book selection, comparison of standard lists, and study of the problems of book buying as found in the libraries represented. Supplementing these, the lectures by visiting librarians will discuss the question of book-selection as related to special needs of the community, or of particular classes of readers. Miss Margaret Evans, of Northfield, a member of the Library Commission, will speak on Books of Power. Miss Margaret Palmer, of Hibbing, will give two talks, one on Books for Foreigners and the other on What People Read. Miss Flora B. Roberts, of Superior, Wis., will talk on "Being a Citizen" emphasizing the duty of the library and librarian in the development of a higher citizenship.

Miss Stearns, the librarian of the Commission, will give six lectures followed by seminars on reference work, including study of the indispensable reference books for a small library and use of magazines with problems on topics for club study and debate.

The Commission is fortunate in again securing the services of Miss Effie L. Power, supervisor of children's work, St. Louis Public Library, for a special course of lectures on children's work, to be given July 10-19. Miss Power gave a similar course two years ago and her work is characterized by sound common sense, understanding of children's needs, and inspiration for making the most of limited resources. The topics chosen by Miss Power are as follows: Picture books and easy reading, Folk tales, Mythology and poetry, Fiction (two lectures) Books of information, General administration of children's work, Spe-

cial work: Story hours, Reading clubs, Home library work, etc. She will also give three talks to the teachers at the Agricultural Summer School, St. Anthony Park, on Purpose and use of a school library, Selection of books for a school library, Story telling and other means of directing children's reading. A model library of children's books will be used as the basis for the course.

Other special lecturers will be Mr. William Watson, until recently librarian of the San Francisco Public Library, and Miss Countryman, librarian of Minneapolis.

The lectures on administration and general library subjects will be given by Miss Baldwin.

Visits to libraries in the Twin Cities and nearby towns will show the methods in use in large and small public libraries and in special libraries.

The Delta Gamma Lodge, 1320 Seventh St., S. E., will be library headquarters, where board and room may be obtained for \$6 to \$7 a week. As nearly all the rooms in the house are already reserved, those desiring room and board should make immediate application to the Director of the school. Whenever possible, rooms will be found in the neighborhood for those who cannot be accommodated at the house, and meals can be obtained at the Delta Gamma house.

The following outline of the program is given for the information of librarians who may be in the city during the course, but as dates of special lectures are subject to change, any who are expecting to visit the school, should communicate with the Director before making plans.

Outline of Program.

1st week—June 17-22.

Order, Accession, Shelf-list, Cataloging—Miss Carey.

Book-selection—Miss Baldwin.

June 19—What people read—Miss Palmer.

June 20—Books for foreigners—Miss Palmer.

June 21—Being a citizen—Miss Roberts.

2nd week—June 24-28.

Classification, Cataloging—Miss Carey.

Book-selection—Miss Baldwin.

Reference work (beginning June 27)—Miss Stearns.

June 26—California County Libraries—Mr. Watson.

June 28—Visit to Waldorf Bindery.

3d week—July 1-6.

Cataloging, Classification—Miss Carey.

Reference work—Miss Stearns.

Administration—Miss Baldwin.

July 3—Books of power—Miss Evans.
(July 4th—Holiday.)

4th week—July 8-12.

Cataloging, Classification—Miss Carey.

Reference work—Miss Stearns.

Children's work (beginning July 10)—Miss Power.

5th week—July 15-19.

Cataloging, Classification—Miss Carey.

Children's work—Miss Power.

6th week—July 22-26.

Cataloging—Miss Carey.

Administration—Miss Baldwin.

July 24—Lecture—Miss Sanford.

July 25—Review.

UNIVERSITY WEEKS.

The schedule for University Weeks has been completed and offers a varied program of practical addresses, scientific and literary lectures and popular educational entertainments.

The following institutions are represented:

The State Board of Health, The State Art Society, The Agricultural Extension Division of the University, Extension Division of Economics and Political Science, The College of Education, The Department of Public Instruction, The State Normal Schools, The State Library Commission, The Federated Women's Clubs, The University Dramatic Club, and the University Glee Club.

During the first week library interests will be represented on Art and Literature Day by Miss Clara F. Baldwin, Secretary of the Library Commission, who will speak on The Library and the Community. On the same program Prof. Maria Sanford's talk on Literature for everybody, is sure to be full of inspiration to all who are interested in library work. The schedule for these talks is as follows:

Monday, June 3, Windom.

Tuesday, June 4, St. James.

Wednesday, June 5, Fairmont.

Thursday, June 6, Jackson.

Friday, June 7, Worthington.

Saturday, June 8, Luverne.

During the same week Miss Martha Wilson, Supervisor of School Libraries, will speak on the Farmer's Day program on Rural School Libraries and Books for Rural Communities. These talks will be given as follows:

Monday, June 3, Luverne.
Tuesday, June 4, Worthington.
Wednesday, June 5, Jackson.
Thursday, June 6, Fairmont.
Friday, June 7, St. James.
Saturday, June 8, Windom.

During the second week, both Miss Baldwin and Miss Wilson will appear on the program of Art and Literature Day, according to the following schedule:

Monday, June 10; Owatonna, Miss Baldwin, Miss Wilson.

Tuesday, June 11; Red Wing, Miss Baldwin.

Wednesday, June 12; Rochester, Miss Wilson.

Thursday, June 13; Plainview, Miss Wilson.

Friday, June 14; Grand Meadow, Miss Wilson.

Saturday, June 15; Waseca, Miss Baldwin, Miss Wilson.

During the third week, Miss Countryman of the Minneapolis public library, will assist and the schedule for library talks is as follows:

Monday, June 17; Crookston (Farmers' Day), Miss Wilson. Coleraine, Miss Countryman.

Tuesday, June 18; Cloquet, Miss Countryman.

Wednesday, June 19; Grand Rapids, Miss Wilson.

Thursday, June 20; Brainerd, Miss Countryman or Miss Baldwin.

Coleraine, Miss Wilson.

Friday, June 21; Bemidji, Miss Wilson.

Saturday, June 22; Crookston, Miss Wilson.

The library exhibit will be arranged with the other exhibits at the High School building in care of a University student. It will consist of traveling libraries for rural communities, for study clubs, books for children, and in foreign languages, post-cards of Minnesota library buildings and printed matter showing how the public library educates the people.

As the purpose of University Week is to emphasize the fact that town and country are one community; to stimulate all the

interests and activities of this community; to promote a better understanding between the body of citizens and the men and women who are trying to serve them and to leave in each community influences which will have progressive and permanent effects, the Commission hopes that definite results may be obtained for the local library, in stimulating civic pride in the institution which may lead to better support and a wider use by people in town and country. The Commission therefore urges librarians and library boards to co-operate in this effort to strengthen the position of the library as a real factor in community life.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The twentieth annual meeting of the Minnesota Library Association will be held the latter part of September, at Faribault.

The executive committee congratulates the association upon the invitation extended it by the Faribault Public Library board, which was accepted most gladly by the committee.

This town is well equipped with libraries, each of the four church schools and the three state schools located there has one. Librarians who have never read a book, may read one there.

The place is accessible; it is attractive, situated in a beautiful part of Minnesota. Through the kindness of the Faribault people, the librarians will be given a special opportunity to see its attractions.

The time and the place of the meeting leave nothing to be desired.

Program—It is the earnest wish of the librarians of the state that Dr. Vincent may be secured to make the address of the first evening. There is no one whom they would rather hear.

Preceding Dr. Vincent's talk, there will be an afternoon trustees' round table, with Mrs. Luedtke of Fairmont presiding over the discussion of "The problems of the \$1,000 income—its possibilities and its limitations."

The following morning's theme will be "Library extension in Minnesota—Getting the books to the people."

Librarians of county extension centers; state institutions; factory, business, settlement and school branches, will contribute to the discussion, which is meant to be eminently practical and concerned with results only.

Miss Martin of the Minneapolis Public Library will read a paper on "The circulating librarian."

The second afternoon Miss Carey of the Commission will preside at the round-table talks on reference work; Miss Lewis of Fergus Falls has "The relation of book selection to reference work;" Mrs. Halbert of Luverne and Miss Cummings of White Bear, "The catalog as a reference tool;" Miss Mary Pringle of the Commission, "Reference work with rural districts;" Miss Josephine Schain of Minneapolis, "Municipal reference work;" Dr. J. J. Dow of Faribault, "Reference work and public documents."

The second evening promises the joyous feature of a dinner, and if fortune favors, a talk by Mrs. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen of the University of Chicago School of Education, illustrated by some story-telling.

Friday morning a short business session, followed by a sight-seeing trip about the institutions of Faribault will conclude the meeting.

Even allowing for shrinkage in the program, which is conceded to be, as yet, very much in the air, the indications point to a meeting full of bread and circuses.—M. P.

ROUND TABLE MEETINGS.

Duluth. A round-table meeting for public and school librarians was held in the Duluth Public Library March 14-15, in connection with the meeting of the N. E. Minnesota Educational Association.

On Thursday afternoon the Secretary of the Commission conducted the discussion on public library problems, particularly library budgets and business methods. Each librarian brought with her copies of the financial report of the library for the past year with budget for the coming year carefully worked out and a comparison of the figures and methods of keeping accounts proved of much interest. The exchange of foreign books, which has been arranged between the libraries in this locality was discussed. There were 21 present including librarians and trustees from the public libraries of Duluth, Two Harbors, Cloquet, Virginia, Hibbing, Superior, and the Superior Normal School. At the close of the session tea was served by members of the public library staff. In the evening the librarians attended the banquet of the

Teachers' Association at the Spalding Hotel, and enjoyed President Vincent's stimulating address on The new duty of the schools.

On Friday morning, the round table for school and public librarians was conducted by Miss Martha Wilson, Supervisor of School Libraries. Representatives from eight public libraries (Duluth, Two Harbors, Virginia, Hibbing, Chisholm, Cloquet, Bemidji and Superior, Wis.) and seven school libraries (Duluth Normal, Superior Normal, and Duluth, Two Harbors, Hibbing, Chisholm and Brookston High Schools) were present, a total of 29. Methods for school libraries, and Co-operation between school and public libraries in purchase of books, in reference work for pupils and teachers, and in guiding pupil's general reading were discussed, each librarian outlining the methods in vogue in her library. The school libraries in Northeastern Minnesota are very well equipped, and are supplying the needs of the pupils in a satisfactory way.

St. Cloud. A round-table meeting was held in St. Cloud March 22-23 in connection with the meeting of the Northern Minnesota Educational Association, with an attendance of 12, including librarians and trustees from St. Cloud, Little Falls, Royalton and Rice's. The first session was held at the public library Friday afternoon. Topics for discussion were book selection, rural loans and library budgets and business methods. One suggestion, which was received with interest, was the plan of placing books and magazines in railway stations for the use of transients and travellers.

The visiting librarians and trustees were guests of the St. Cloud Library Board at a dinner given at the Grand Central Hotel Friday evening, after which all attended the lecture at the Normal School by Dr. Cyrus Northrop, President Emeritus of the University, and the reception which followed. Saturday morning, the school library was the theme for discussion under the leadership of Miss Wilson. Topics considered were The school library co-operating with the public library, The school library serving as a public library, The selection and use of its books and its arrangement and care.

Fergus Falls. A round-table discussion was conducted by the Secretary of the Commission at the meeting of the 9th district Federation of Women's clubs held at Fergus Falls, May 9th. Miss Amy A. Lewis,

librarian at Fergus Falls, read a paper on The library as a social center, which is printed in another part of **Library Notes and News**. Following the discussion on this topic, the subject of library extension to rural communities was presented. Miss Agnes Torpey, librarian at Morris, told of the success of county extension in Stevens County, where the library has ten stations located outside of a radius of 10 miles from the central library. Mr. Roberts, County Superintendent of Schools of Stevens County, and a member of the Morris Library Board supplemented Miss Torpey's report with an account of the advantages of county extension from the standpoint of the rural school, and maintained that the rural school libraries would be more effective if all were operated on the traveling library plan from a central library. Miss Wilson told of some of the problems of the rural school library, and urged the necessity of giving more attention to this part of the school equipment, especially the importance of careful selection adapted to the needs of the children and the particular community. There was further discussion on the subject of standardization of children's reading and the importance of furnishing more attractive editions of children's classics. The libraries of Alexandria, Detroit, and Morris were represented at the meeting, and all librarians and trustees present were guests of the Fergus Falls Library Board at a dinner served by the Domestic Science Department of the High School, which reflected great credit on the effective work of this department.

Club Meetings. The Commission was represented at other district meetings of the Fédération at Austin, May 30; Duluth, May 2-3; Le Sueur Center, May 8-9 and Marshall, May 15-17. At Austin, Miss Baldwin gave a short talk on The library's share in social progress. Miss Stearns attended the meetings at Duluth, Le Sueur Center and Marshall and spoke on the work of the Commission for study clubs. An exhibit of picture books and fine editions of children's books was sent to Marshall and attracted much attention.

NOTES FOR LIBRARIANS.

Annual Reports. At the last session of the Legislature, the time for the annual report of public libraries was changed and the law now reads as follows:

Section 2261. As amended by chapter 181, Laws of 1911: * * * * At the first regular meeting of the board following the third Saturday of July, in each year, the board shall report to the governing body of the municipality all amounts received during the preceding year, and the sources thereof, the amounts expended, and for what purposes, the number of books on hand, the number purchased and loaned, and such other information as it deems advisable. A copy of such report shall be filed with the state library commission. But nothing in this section shall apply to libraries in cities of the first class. ('03 c. 173 ss. 6, 7.)

The law as amended was worded to conform with the section relating to time of appointments of members of library boards, since such boards must necessarily reorganize after the appointment of new members, and it would seem to be a convenient arrangement to make the annual report to the municipality and close the library year at the same time. The annual report blanks will therefore be sent out from the Commission office in July, asking for a report for the year ending June, 1912. According to the requirements of special charters in some instances, libraries must make a report to the city council at another date, and in such cases, the Commission cannot, of course, ask the librarian to prepare a separate report, but will accept a copy of the latest report made to the municipality. It is hoped, however, for the sake of uniformity, that the majority of libraries will be able to make reports at this time.

A. L. A. Catalog, 1904-1911. The supplement to the A. L. A. Catalog noted in the last bulletin will be ready early in June. Advance orders at the reduced price of \$1 are still being received by the A. L. A. Publishing Board, and any library which has not ordered a copy is urged to send on its subscription at once. Address A. L. A. Publishing Board, 78 East Washington St., Chicago, Ill.

Boy Scout Reading List. A reading list for the Boy Scouts of America, compiled by the Public Library of St. Joseph, Mo., has been reprinted in leaflet form by the H. W. Wilson Co., Minneapolis, from whom copies may be secured at the rate of ten copies for 25 cents or 100 copies for \$1.50. This list was published through the cour-

tesy of Mr. Charles E. Rush, librarian of St. Joseph, in Library Notes and News for March, 1911, but librarians will be glad to know that the list is obtainable in a more convenient form for distribution at a nominal price.

Fly-poster. The State Board of Health in co-operation with F. L. Washburn, State Entomologist, has issued a very effective poster for use in the Fly-fighting campaign. This has been widely distributed through local health officers and civic leagues, but if any library has failed to receive a copy it may obtain one by applying to the State Board of Health. Every library should do all in its power to aid in the campaign for cleanliness and health.

The American Civic Association has issued a special bulletin called the "Fly fighter," which may be obtained in quantities at \$3.25 per 1,000. The bulletin published last year entitled "Kill flies and save lives, may be obtained at \$2.50 per 1,000.

Edward Henry Harriman, by John Muir. Doubleday, Page & Co., Garden City, N. Y., have published privately Mr. John Muir's book on E. H. Harriman, and announce that they will send a copy to any library that requests it.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

Atlantic Monthly, 1857-1907; 90 v. one-half leather.

Mrs. M. J. Sinclair, Winona, Minn.
Irving, Life and voyages of Columbus; 2v.
Kenyon Public Library.

Mrs. R. Leland, Librarian.
Stoddard, Lectures; 13v. three-fourths morocco; excellent condition; cost \$42, offered for \$25.

Mrs. C. Goertemoeller, Wayzata, Minn.

TRAVELING LIBRARY NOTES.

The latest number of the series of traveling library leaflets, entitled "Aids to study clubs" contains suggestions as to subjects for study, and notes on outlines and programs, with a list of club libraries available and information as to Commission resources for this purpose. This leaflet has been sent to the secretary of each Federated club in the state and to all other study clubs of which the Commission has knowledge. Sixty libraries for the use of club study have already been reserved for the year 1912-13.

Several new Country Life clubs have been organized. In the neighborhood of Hastings alone there are five such clubs studying different phases of agriculture, household economics and literature.

The demand for books on agricultural subjects has been so great that a third Farmer's library of 25 volumes has been put in circulation.

Owing to the fact that some of the most important recent novels had not the large circulation they merited, the Commission has had annotated lists made and pasted on the inside doors of the traveling library cases. This will enable the prospective patron to form an idea of the contents of a book before he takes it home and assist the librarians of traveling libraries in directing the attention of readers to books which will interest them.—H. J. S.

SCHOOL LIBRARY NOTES.

The plan of presenting school library matters at county teachers' meetings has been continued throughout the season. March 2d, Le Sueur Center was visited for this purpose and Northfield on March 6th. At Pipestone, March 9th, the teachers were addressed in the morning and a talk given in the afternoon to a joint meeting of teachers and school officers on Reading for rural communities. At the Northeastern M. E. A. at Duluth, March 15-16 an exhibit was shown of books for the lower grades, library aids for teachers, lists to stimulate use of the best children's books, and some pictures for school room use. A talk was given in the primary section on Children's first reading. The interesting and profitable round-table meeting of public and school libraries held at this time has been mentioned elsewhere.

The district meeting at Rochester was held March 15-16, the same date as the Duluth meeting. Miss Louise Fernald of the public library gave a talk on library matters, to a large meeting of teachers, many of whom had become greatly interested in better books for their schools through Miss Fernald's inspirational work throughout the county.

At the Northern M. E. A. meeting in St. Cloud, March 22-23, an exhibit was again shown and library round table attended.

Teachers' meetings at Cambridge, March 30; Chaska, April 13; Hinckley, April 20;

Mora, April 27th; and Wabasha, May 3d gave an opportunity to talk to the teachers about their school libraries as a part of their school equipment and how to make them more useful and effective.

It was a pleasure to find such an orderly, well-arranged school library as that in the new school house in Hinckley. The collection was well selected and had been classified, marked and shelf-listed by the domestic science teacher, who voluntarily did this work for the school. Many teachers in the state are giving of their time and service to improve the school libraries and this work should be paid for at the same rate as their other services.

At the invitation of the superintendent a Parent and teachers' meeting at Madelia was attended May 3d. The school library serving a town as a public library was the topic for discussion. The Normal School at Moorhead was visited May 7-8 and two talks were given to the seniors in the school management class. The two periods were given to the consideration of the purpose of the school library, the importance of children's reading, and standard lists of books for school libraries.

The club meeting at Fergus Falls was attended on May 9th and in the afternoon a talk given to the students in the teachers' training department of the High School.

A school library exhibit of books, library helps for teachers, and graded lists of books for reading aloud and graded list of pictures for school rooms, will be shown in connection with the University weeks throughout the state June 3-22.

A number of the summer schools of the state will be visited and talks will be given on the purpose of the school library and its relation to the public library, the selection of books and the arrangement and care. The schools in which one or more talks will be given will probably be those at Crookston, Bemidji, Morris, Glenwood, Aitkin, Brainerd, Detroit, Thief River Falls and Roseau.—M. W.

PERSONAL.

Miss Miriam E. Carey, organizer of the Commission, went East in May to give a lecture on Library work in state institutions at the Library Schools of Western Reserve University, Cleveland; The New York Public Library (a joint meeting of the classes from Pratt Institute, Brooklyn,

and Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, with that of the New York Public Library) and Simmons College, Boston.

Miss Grace Poland, formerly librarian at Moorhead, Minn., (Wisconsin Library School, 1910), has taken a position as cataloger in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Mrs. C. W. Locke has been elected librarian at Lindstrom to succeed Supt. E. A. Cedergren, resigned.

Miss Eleanor Gladstone, librarian of Carleton College, is organizing a party for a summer in Europe in connection with Pratt's travel tours. Other Minnesota librarians who will spend the summer abroad are Mrs. Flora C. Conner, Austin; Miss Effie Sands, Red Wing; and Miss Minnie Sears of the University Library.

NEWS OF MINNESOTA LIBRARIES.

(Items of news for this column are solicited from all libraries in the state. They should be sent to the Secretary of the Commission by the 15th of the month preceding each issue of the bulletin, which appears quarterly in March, June, September and December.)

Albert Lea. Beginning in March, the library has been open daily from 2 to 9 p. m. The children's room is to be provided with wall shelving, and some low tables and chairs. The story-hour recently inaugurated has proved immensely popular.

The library has added a collection of the bulletins of various State Agricultural Experiment Stations, as well as those of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Mr. John Ransom, president of the Library Board has assumed the task of making a subject catalog of this material, which is a valuable addition to the library resources.

Miss Carey, the Commission organizer, spent four weeks in Albert Lea during March and April, and began the work of making a dictionary catalog of the library.

Aurora. The school library is open to the public every Sunday afternoon from 2 to 5, and is well patronized by the town people. A good collection of magazines and papers is supplied.

Benson. Owing to the removal of the Commercial Club which has provided a room for the library for some time, the library association was obliged to face the question of housing, and it was decided that the time was ripe to acquire a building

and provide for permanent maintenance. The mayor, in consultation with members of the library board, opened correspondence with the Carnegie Corporation, and late in April the library board and council held a joint meeting at which the Secretary of the Commission was present to discuss building plans, cost of maintenance, etc. A public meeting held the following week was well attended, and a strong sentiment in favor of the library was evident. Accordingly the offer of \$7,500 from the Carnegie Corporation was accepted after an unsuccessful effort to have the amount increased to \$10,000, and the council has passed an ordinance providing for the required annual income of \$750. A gift of \$500 made by H. W. Stone a number of years ago has now increased to about \$800, which is available for the purchase of a site. A number of locations are being considered.

Brainerd. The Musical Club planted trees on the library grounds on Arbor Day. A musical program was given for the children's hour one Saturday afternoon in May.

Breckenridge. The formal opening of the public library took place at the Commercial Club rooms on May 10. Short addresses were made by the president of the association, Judge Balantine, the Secretary of the Library Commission and others. The Commercial Club has given the use of their reading room for the library, which will open with about 500 books on the shelves, including a number of valuable works which have been loaned for an indefinite period. Mr. Holman and Miss Bessie McPeck have volunteered their services as librarians.

Caledonia. A room for the public library has been provided in the new city hall at Caledonia. The room is 20 feet 6 inches by 44 feet 6 inches, located on the ground floor, with excellent light, and admirably adapted to its purpose. The library now contains about 600 volumes. The Civic League will furnish the room, and provide volunteer service.

Cannon Falls. The public school library of about 1,800 volumes has been reorganized by Miss Carey of the Library Commission, and is now open to the public one afternoon and evening each week.

Chatfield. The first annual report of the Chatfield Public Library is a remarkable one. With no financial aid except voluntary contributions, there are over 2,000

books on the shelves, over 700 borrowers, and the total circulation for the year is 10,075. Donations of books are constantly coming in, and a recent gift of \$50 from the Commercial Club was much appreciated by the Library Board.

Chisholm. As there has been some difficulty in securing a clear title to the site chosen for the library, a more central location is being considered, which may delay the erection of the building somewhat.

Crookston. Of the books collected by the Carnegie Library Literary Society, about 80 were suitable for the library, and the remainder were sent to hospitals.

Shelving for the reference books has been placed in the main reading room, and new Mazda lamps make a great improvement in the lighting.

Detroit. The council has passed the necessary resolution accepting the terms of the Carnegie gift. The Secretary of the Commission met with the library board early in April to discuss plans.

Duluth. The West Duluth branch is nearing completion. The West End branch, formerly located in the Neighborhood House, has been removed into better quarters over a department store in the West End. The Library Board hopes in the fall to secure space on the second floor of a new store building now in process of erection. It is now open every afternoon in the week and on Saturday evening.

Faribault. The city council has agreed to fit up a bath room in the library basement for the use of the visiting nurse in caring for needy children.

Fulda. The Ladies' Reading Club which has rendered volunteer service in keeping the library open has asked the council to make an appropriation for the employment of a regular librarian.

Glenwood. The Glenwood Public Library is free to any resident of the county, but the privilege can only be used to advantage by those living near the city. The library board is therefore agitating the question of asking the county commissioners for assistance in order that branches may be established in outlying parts of the county.

Howard Lake. The Howard Lake Library and Improvement Club has adopted articles of incorporation, and feeling that the burden of maintaining the library is too great to be carried by its 30 members has decided

to charge 50 cents for a library card, upon which three books may be taken at a time.

Jackson. The Woman's Club gave a moving picture show to raise money toward the expense of cataloging the library.

Janesville. About \$700 has been raised by subscription to complete the furnishing of the new library, which has been occupied since the first of May.

Kenyon. Some standard reference books were sent to the library by the Church Periodical Club of New York city on payment of freight charges. Another valuable gift of books was received from Mrs. C. E. Hewitt, a pioneer worker for the Kenyon Public Library.

Le Roy. The Library Association has started a chain of library teas to raise money for the library.

Le Sueur. An entertainment of "story and song" was given on the afternoon and evening of May 1, by three young women from Minneapolis, who divided the profits with the library.

Litchfield. An appropriation of \$200 was made by the County Commissioners in recognition of the extension of library privileges throughout the county.

Little Falls. The Handicraft exhibit loaned by the State Federation of Women's Clubs was shown at the library in March under the auspices of the Musical Art Club. A renting collection of late fiction has been started through donations from some friends of the library. These books will be loaned for 5 cents a week, and placed on the free shelves when they are paid for, while the receipts are used to purchase other books for this collection.

At a recent meeting of the Library Board, a budget for the coming year was adopted, and it was decided to keep the library open every afternoon and evening during the school year, with the same hours as formerly during the summer. The new schedule went into effect May 1st.

Long Prairie. The library association received an unexpected gift of \$19.91, which remained in the treasury of a former public library organization.

Mankato. Letters were sent to teachers in the country outside of Mankato, reminding them that the library is free to residents of the county, and asking them to advertise this fact among their school chil-

dren and the people in their district. The number of borrowers from outside the city is steadily increasing.

Mr. Trafton of the State Normal School gave a talk to the children of the 4th, 5th and 6th grades about birds, building bird houses and other ways of attracting the birds, illustrated with stereopticon pictures. About 100 children attended and were much interested. The forestry pictures loaned by the Library Commission attracted considerable interest from the school children.

Minneapolis. A new branch is to be opened on the North Side June 1st, making 13 in all, while a new station at Minnehaha and 42d streets brings the number of stations up to 20. A station has been opened in the Radisson Hotel for the benefit of guests. A special book-case has been constructed in a room on the parlor floor, and the room will be made as attractive as the library of a private home.

Mound. Mr. Bartholomew, cartoonist of the Minneapolis Journal, gave a demonstration of his work for the benefit of the public library.

New Richland. The public library has been removed to its former quarters over the State Bank and the Women's rest room has been discontinued on account of lack of sufficient patronage.

Northome. The Library Board will put on a home talent play in the near future.

Ortonville. Two new book-cases have been purchased for the library to provide for recent additions.

Owatonna. The librarian has been doing some effective work in advertising the library throughout the county. One of the ministers at Deerfield devoted a Sunday sermon to the Library and its work and distributed the leaflets "Don't be a quitter." Typewritten copies of books have been mailed residents of each township, giving names of books at their station. Lists of books and library notices have also been published in the local papers throughout the county, as well as in the township news in the Owatonna papers. The librarian attended a County Sunday School Teachers' convention at Medford, and gave a talk on what the library could do for them, showing some mounted pictures of the Holy Land, and distributing a printed list of Sunday School Helps.

The Library Board has decided to extend

the heating system to the room in the second story, so that exhibitions may be held there regularly.

Paynesville. The Book Lovers Club gave a musical and literary entertainment for the benefit of the library on April 26th.

Red Wing. A collection of college and university catalogs has been made for the use of High School graduates. The annual exhibit of material on travel is proving as popular as ever.

An illustrated lecture on Winter sport in Norway, given by Dr. C. L. Opsal at the West End reading room was well attended. This reading room has been closed for the summer and a flourishing Children's Civic League of over 100 members has been organized in the neighborhood. Free seeds were distributed and prizes offered. The plan of work includes not only cleaning up streets and alleys and beautifying home grounds, but a crusade against soap and tobacco signs which disfigure the locality.

Rochester. A new filing cabinet has been purchased for the picture and clipping collection. The library has been closed temporarily on account of a scarlet fever epidemic.

Royalton. The Royalton Library Association was organized in March with a membership fee of 50 cents. For the present the library will be located in the school house where a room will be provided for the purpose.

Rushford. The public library has received a large box of excellent books from Hon. S. G. Iverson, State Auditor, and a former resident of Rushford. Another gift of 60 volumes was received from H. J. Hirschheimer of La Crosse.

St. Cloud. The exhibit of British Historical pictures loaned by the Library Commission was greatly enjoyed.

St. James. The question of levying a tax for library purposes was submitted to vote, but failed to carry, the vote being 163 in favor, and 197 against. The friends of the library are in no wise discouraged, however, and will maintain the library by subscription and private effort until such time as the people authorize the tax levy for its support.

St. Paul. Over \$100,000 was raised for the purchase of the library site to meet the conditions of Mr. Hill's offer. It is under-

stood that the total of Mr. Hill's gift will amount to \$750,000, of which \$250,000 will be a permanent endowment fund for the reference library, while the rest will be spent on the building, books and equipment.

St. Peter. Two public piano recitals were given in the library basement by pupils of Dr. R. Lagerstrom.

Shakopee. The calendar chain inaugurated in February for the benefit of the library is progressing satisfactorily. The months and weeks have all been secured, each week agreeing to give 10 cents and secure 24 nickels. If the chain is completed this will bring a total of \$455.80, without imposing a large tax on anyone. The library, which now contains 353 books has been removed to M. A. Deutsch's drug store, where it is open every day in the week including evenings, Mr. Deutsch donating the room and his services as librarian.

Spring Valley. A meeting was held at the public library on May 1st to discuss the plan of township extension. Miss Baldwin was present, and told of the advantages of the plan to both town and country. Since people in the country around Spring Valley have for some years derived great benefit from the rest-room which is open all day, it seems only just that they should be willing to co-operate with the village in maintaining the institution. Owing to the busy season of year, the attendance was small, but the Library Board will continue to agitate the question and it is hoped that some townships may be willing to levy a small tax in the fall.

Two Harbors. In view of the typhoid epidemic the librarian has prepared an annotated list of material on typhoid fever, filters and filtration plants, sewage disposal, a copy of which was sent to the city council, and published in the local paper.

Virginia. The council has authorized the Library Board to proceed with the erection of the new building without the assistance of the Carnegie Corporation, as it seemed impracticable to make the changes in the plans required by the corporation.

Wabasha. A gift of 60 volumes of history has been presented by Mr. Michael Marx and 25 volumes of fiction by Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hirschy.

Wadena. The annual meeting of the Library Association was held April 9th. The treasurer reported that \$138 had been re-

ceived from the library teas and calendar chain and that considerable more had been pledged. The Secretary of the Commission was present and gave a talk as to ways and means urging the importance of placing the library on a permanent basis by levying a tax for its support. Officers and committees were elected for the ensuing year, and the executive board held a meeting the following day and elected Mrs. George Stedman librarian with members of the Junior class as assistants. The library has been thoroughly cleaned, books mended and put in

order, and some new books purchased.

White Bear. Traveling libraries have been placed in the neighboring country schools to carry out the plan of county extension. An offer from the Carnegie Corporation has been submitted to the city council for action.

Willmar. Additional shelving will be added to the children's room to accommodate the growing collection. The back numbers of popular magazines will be placed in circulation as 3-day books, retaining only the latest number on the reading tables.